

CHILDREN HAVE RIGHTS



Lots of young people get help from child intervention. Sometimes this help is given when young people live at home. Sometimes this help is given when young people live away from home in places like kinship care, foster homes, or group homes.



If I am a young person getting help from child intervention, I have a caseworker, no matter where I am living or who I am living with.

I also have rights.

Rights are things that you are allowed to have or to do. They are freedoms that you are born with.



Some of the most important rights are ...

I have the right to **live with people who care about me, respect me and keep me safe.**



I have the right to **be who I am.**
What I think and feel and want are important.



I have the right to
my own culture
and religion



I have the right **to know my own life story.**



I have the right to **keep my favourite things with me.**



I have the right to have
**a reasonable amount
of freedom and privacy.**

KEEP OUT



I have the right to **know the plans made for my care** and know why I am in care.

I have the right to **be involved in decisions that are made about me.**

I have the right to **know why a decision was made.**



I have the right to
have my voice heard
in court matters that
are about me.



I have the right to **visit or talk with my family and friends.**



I have the right to know
why if I can't.





I have the right to **be left alone** when I am visiting
or **talking to my family**, as long as I am safe.

I have the right to
**visit a doctor or
dentist** when I need to.



I have the right to **go to school**,
just like any young person in Alberta.



I have the right to **have my rights explained to me.**



I have the right to **know about and be helped to call the Office of the Child and Youth Advocate.**

I have the right to **talk to my lawyer, advocate or caseworker by myself.**





I have the right to **learn the things that will help me be the best person I can be.**

If you feel that your rights are not being respected,
you can do something!

ASK QUESTIONS!

- **Call your caseworker.** Ask them to explain what your rights are.
- **Talk to someone that you trust.** They can be your parent, caregiver, teacher, an elder or pastor, a counselor or a family friend.
- **Ask to speak to your caseworker's boss.** You should write down that person's name and phone number.
- **Call the Office of the Child and Youth Advocate** and ask to speak to an advocate.

These rights can be found in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, (which the province of Alberta endorsed in 1999) and in Alberta laws and government policy.

For more information, visit the Office of the Child and Youth Advocate: **ocya.alberta.ca**

REMEMBER

1. You have Rights!
2. If you feel that no one is listening to you and that you need someone to stand up for you, **DO SOMETHING!**
 - Call your caseworker
 - Call your caseworker's boss
 - Call the Office of the Child & Youth Advocate:
Toll-Free 1-800-661-3446